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APPLICATION NO.	FILED DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09 835,453	04 16 2001	Leonid V. Budaragin	R3990 252636	7721

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

BARR, MICHAEL E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1762	S

DATE MAILED: 09/05/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

TC 5

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/835,453	BUDARAGIN, LEONID V.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Michael Barr	1762	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 August 2002.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20-23 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 18 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT IS MADE OF A CLAIM FOR DOMESTIC PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Re. Ref. PTO-948
 3) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)

- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group I in Paper No. 4 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that there is no burden to search and examine the invention of Group II. This is not found persuasive because there is a burden on the examiner to search and examine the invention of Group II. The product of Group II can be made by a materially different process other than that of Group II, such as a CVD or plasma spray process. Therefore, the search for the product of Group II goes well beyond that of the process of Group I, and thus there is a burden on the examiner to search and examine the product of Group II.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

2. Claims 20-23 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 4.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: In the first line of the specification, the date of the priority application is incorrect. The correct filing date of 08/824,418 is 3/26/97.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding Claim 18, the phrase "preferably" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1-17 are allowed.

7. Claims 18-19 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art cited or reviewed by the examiner teaches forming a metal oxide coating on a metal cutting tool using the claimed liquid metal carboxylate precursor. The prior art teaches vapor deposition technique and non-carboxylate precursors.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

Allowance."

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Funaki et al., Russell, and Taschner et al. are cited as prior art of interest.

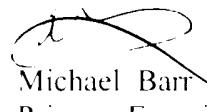
Funaki et al. teaches forming a metal oxide coating on a cutting tool using a metal alkoxide precursor.

Russell and Taschner et al. teaches forming a metal oxide coating on a cutting tool using a vapor deposition technique.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Barr whose telephone number is 703-305-7919. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:00 am-4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shrive Beck can be reached on 703-308-2333. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 or 703-305-5408 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.



Michael Barr
Primary Examiner